

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A method for forming a medical device providing a medical device which includes a component formed from an alloy which contains at least about 40% Ni by weight;

electropolishing surface of the device wherein the electropolishing step produces an oxide layer on the surface of the stent of up to 10 nm depth wherein said surface region contains not more than about 5% Ni by weight.

Please cancel claims 12-19.